

*This is a general course preview. The actual course syllabus may change each term.*

### Course Details

#### Format

- 15-week course
- Not self-paced: Assignments have specific weekly deadlines
- Students login when convenient

#### Orientation

*Before Class Begins*

- New students must complete an online student orientation in Blackboard BEFORE the class begins.
- Students will be emailed a login link.
- Allow 2 hours to complete.

#### Email

- New students must set-up a Concordia email account
- During a term, all communication is through college email

#### Attendance

- Attendance is recorded when a discussion or assignment is posted.
- Login at least 5 times per week.

#### Payment

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- Students are emailed an invoice
- Payments are made online
- Concordia processes invoices for state funded students.

#### Drop Policy

- After a course begins, the student will pay for a course, even if dropped.
- The student pays based on the number of weeks completed.
  - Week 1-5 : A percent refund
  - Week 6-10 0% and 'W' grade
  - Week 11-16 0% and 'F' grade
- "W" Withdraw does not count in GPA
- "F" Counts as a 0.0 in GPA

**Course Description:** REL 201 THE OLD TESTAMENT is an overview of the Old Testament intended to acquaint the student with its background, content, and messages. This introductory course satisfies the core curriculum requirement for Bible content, but students who take it must also take REL 203 New Testament elsewhere in their programs. It is required for students in a church-work program. 3 credit hours.

#### Grading

Discussions (3 per unit)	75%
Written Assignment Questions (5 per unit)	25%

#### Required Resources

- Students will need a study Bible. The *Lutheran Study Bible* is recommended. A contemporary translation such as the New International Version or the English Standard Version is expected.
- Video lectures by Dr. Paavola are in weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15
- Students read articles by various authors in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14
- Online resources [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) and [americanbible.org](http://americanbible.org).

**Course Units:** The course has eight units

- units 1-7: two weeks each
- unit 8: one week

Each unit involves readings from the Bible and other texts, three discussion questions to be shared with others, and five questions whose answers are shared only with the instructor.

**Shared Discussions:** Posted answers should be 7-8 sentences. Replies to the posts of others should be about 4 sentences in length.

**Written Assignment Questions:** There are five private discussion questions for each unit read only by the instructor. These are to be 4-5 sentences long each.



**Counts as...** REL 201 is a required course for students in a church-work major. If REL 203 is also taken, both can be used to satisfy the REL 100 requirement for the Concordia Core Curriculum for other majors.

### Technology Requirements

#### Hardware

- Students need a laptop or desktop with reliable broadband internet access.
- The Blackboard App should be used on tablets and mobile devices.
- (Some courses) Camera & microphone may be needed for video conferencing.
- Speakers or headphones.

#### Browser

- Concordia uses **Blackboard Learn** which runs best in **Firefox** or **Chrome**.
- Disable pop-up blockers and ENABLE cookies.
- Check your browser compliance at: [bit.ly/cuwaachek](http://bit.ly/cuwaachek)  
- Errors are OK if they are for compliance of Java, Shockwave, and Flash.

#### Software

- A word processor is required. Office, Pages, Google docs will work.
- Some courses will require presentation or video software (PowerPoint or equivalent).
- Students have FREE access to Microsoft Office 365 ([download / instructions](#))

## Course Schedule

For weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 there is extensive reading in the Old Testament. You would be wise to plan accordingly and do some of this reading in the previous week when the reading assignment is shorter.

Please post your initial answer to the discussion questions as early in the week as possible as this gives others the most time to comment on your good ideas.

Visit the online course 3-4 times a week to play an active role in these discussions.

Units and Weeks	Readings and Videos	Graded Assignments
Unit 1—Week 1	Genesis 1-9, 12-33, 37-50 — Video 1	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 1—Week 2	Article by Jeon, J. K.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 2—Week 3	Exodus 1-20, Numbers 13-14, 21, and Deuteronomy 6, 33-34 — Video 2	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 2—Week 4	Article by Itzhaq, B.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 3—Week 5	Joshua 1-3 and 6, Judges 6-8, 13-16 and 1 Samuel 8-20 — Video 3	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 3—Week 6	Article by Cafferky, M. E.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 4—Week 7	1 Samuel 24-31, 2 Samuel 1-19, 1 Kings 2-11. — Video 4	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 4—Week 8	Article by Maller, A. S.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 5—Week 9	1 Kings 16-22, 2 Kings 1-8, 17-25, Nehemiah 1-9 — Video 5	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 5—Week 10	Article by Murphy-O'Connor, J.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 6—Week 11	Job 1-3, 26-31, 38-42, Psalms 1, 16, 22, 23, 27, 34, 46, 51, 62, 100, 103, 121, 139, 150, and Proverbs 1- 20, 30-31 — Video 6	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 6—Week 12	Article by Spero, S.	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 7—Week 13	Isaiah 1-12, 36-42, 52-53, 63-66, Jeremiah 1, 36-42, and Ezekiel 1-3, 33, 34, 37 — Video 7	Two Discussion Questions
Unit 7—Week 14	Ezekiel articles by Paavola	One Discussion Question and Five Written Assignment Questions
Unit 8—Week 15	Read all of the books of Jonah, Ruth, Esther, and Daniel — Video 8	Two Discussion Questions and Five Written Assignment Questions